(b) A number of featuee films in Tamil, Malayalam and Telugu have been offered to Doordarshan for telecast. Decision to telecast them is taken only after receipt of a good quality print and satisfactory review report. Therefore, at this stage, it is not possible to indicate which are the films that will be telecast during 1990.

Cochin-Madurai National Highway

978. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken for the construction of Cochin-Madurai National Highway; and

(b) by when the construction work of the project is likely to commence and what will be the route of the highway?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) The road connecting Madurai in Tamil Nadu with Cochin in Kerala via Teni-Munner-ruuvattupuzha was declared as National Highway No. 49 in February, 1989. Condition Surveys have undertaken which is essential before any development work can be considered.

Regional language programme 'Chitramala'

979. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that regional language programme 'Chiramala' is shown only once in two weeks while Hindi counterpart of this programme 'Chitrahaar' is shown four times in two weeks;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the frequency of the telecast 'Chitramala' as more than 60 percent of the population are non-Hindi speaking; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) The 'Chitramala' programme is telecast on the national network on a fortnightly basis. But, 'Chitrahaar' programme is not telecast on the national network four time in two weeks. The 'Chitrahaar' on Wednesday is telecast on the national network, and the programme on Friday is telcst on Delhi and its linked transmetters.

(b) & (c) Within the limitations of transmission time, the question of increase in the frequency of Chitramala programme will be considered.

Use of English translation of Hindi words on Doordarshan

980. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that while doing English accouncements on Doordarshan, translation of Hindi words are not shown on the screen; and

(b) whether Government is likely to issue instructions to use English translation of Hindi words so as to make Hindi programme understandable ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING